

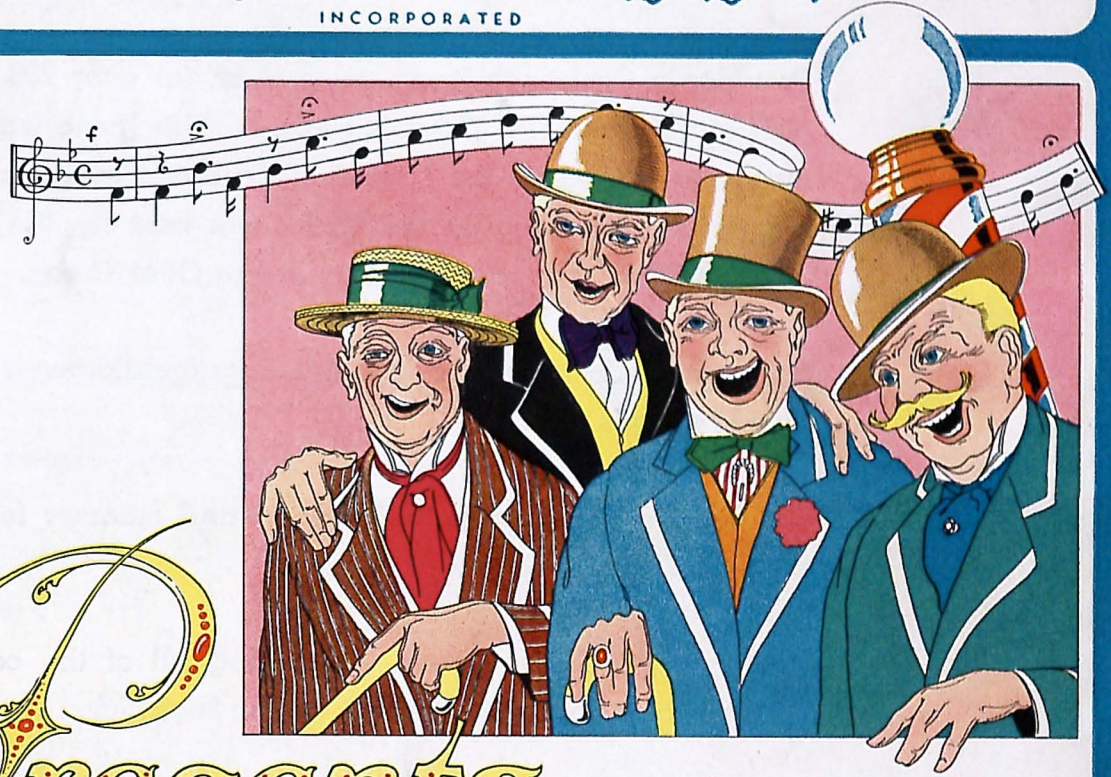
Nov 21, 1953

Louisville Chapter



Kentucky No. 1

Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
INCORPORATED



Presents

its Eighth Annual

BARBER SHOP QUARTET and CHORUS

Fall Musical Show

Kiwanis

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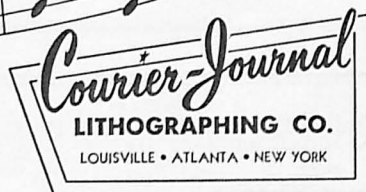


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An Official Welcome and Grateful Acknowledgment

To merely say that you are a most welcome audience here tonight is indeed stating it mildly. Rather let us say that you who are viewing this, our eighth presentation, are generous benefactors to a noble and unselfish cause — aid for under privileged children — a charitable venture that is underwritten by Kiwanis.

We Barber Shoppers feel a mite proud of the fact that we were asked to collaborate with the Kiwanians in a fund raising enterprise. Louisville Kiwanis Clubs invariably tackle big jobs unassisted and their efforts resolve themselves into tremendously successful achievements. We are fortunate to be in a position whereby we may bask somewhat in their glory.

The task of preparing for and presenting a show of this magnitude is of no small consequence. For several months preceding, countless hours by many men are spent. Wonderful results are accomplished — but only by dint of hard but pleasant work.

Speaking for the Barber Shoppers and for the esteemed Kiwanians, we wish to extol our local radio and television stations, the daily paper, and the weekly periodicals for the generous time and space they so magnificently devoted toward publicizing this show.

To the Barber Shoppers we wish to express undying and heart felt gratitude for their magnanimous contribution. We include the chorus, the quartets, the program ad salesmen, the program printing committee, the ticket sellers, the staging and production committee, the house committee, the publicity committee, the After-glo committee and the host committee.

If you have enjoyed the performance tonight and would like to know the names of those who are responsible, turn to the complete roster on page 37. Each and every one played an important part.

Executive Committee	{ 1st V. P.—W. C. "Bing" Crosby
	{ 2nd V.P.—Henry Weber
	{ Secretary—Frank Marx
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Program Printing Committee—C. C. McGuire, Henry Weber, Harold Roederer, Chairman; Ed Mall and Walter Kolish get into a huddle to discuss particulars of program printing. The Printing Committee wishes to thank the typesetter, the printer, and all others who have had a part in the production of this program.

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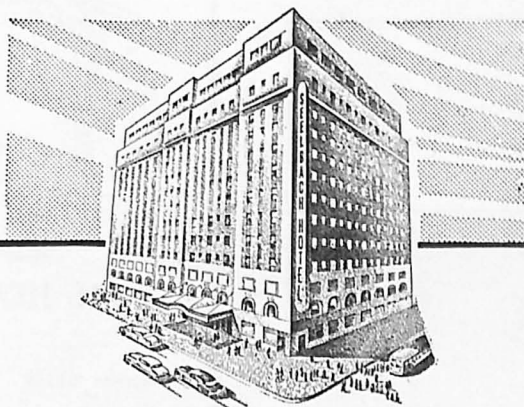
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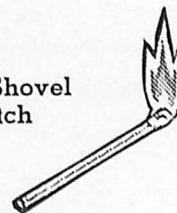
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J. BERTRAM HARMON, Chorus Director

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We would like to extend to each and everyone who has had a part in any way to make this show the success that is gained thru hard work and effort, our sincere thanks and appreciation. Through the time and talent of many who have helped, the work of the Production Staff and Committees was made to be a very joyful task. Again may we say thanks to everyone.

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It is with a feeling of pride that we announce the participation of the New Albany Chorus in a spot intended to get our show off to a grand start. They represent a new chapter organized just last spring sponsored by the Louisville Chapter. They are going "great guns" and we're proud of our "baby". Now, for the show, just follow the program as it reveals your "Parade of Harmony".

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OH! MONA	Featuring the Kentucky Troubadours

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Continued on Page 19

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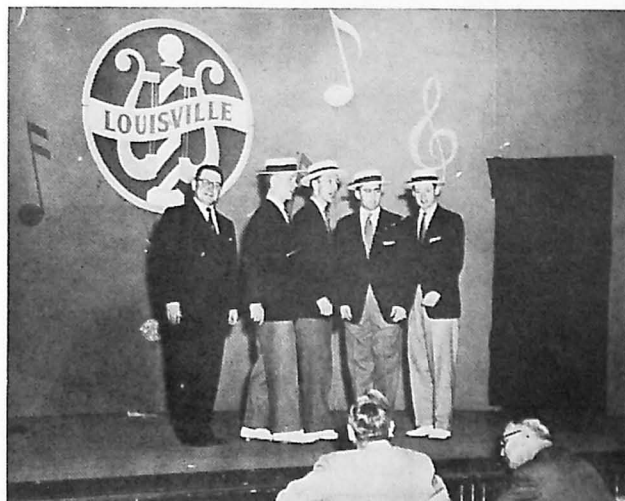
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Continued on Page 27

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Music is Music . . . All music is made up of the fundamentals of rhythm, melody, harmony, form and tone color. While all kinds of music use every fundamental, there is a great variation in the degree to which each is used. A solo voice or instrument places greatest stress upon melody while a dance combo or marching band would emphasize the rhythm. A symphony orchestra leans more heavily upon musical form and tone color than do other varieties of music. Barbershop singing, as we all know, places greatest emphasis upon harmony. The melody may be changed, the rhythm may be stopped while a good swipe is indulged in . . . Anything for the close harmony so dear to the true barbershopper.

In Barbershop singing, the melody is generally sung by the second voice from the top, called the "Lead". The "Tenor" is almost always above the lead while the "Bass" supplies the fundamental of the chord. The Baritone, usually called "Bari", has what is left over in the way of harmony notes and the singer who can execute the extremes of range and part leading demanded of the Bari is a jewel indeed.

Let no one think that modern barbershop harmony is easy to sing. Typical Barbershop part writing is much more difficult than that for the usual classical or standard harmony group. Difficult vocal leaps such as the augmented second or major seventh are commonplace with the Barbershopper. These difficult melodic intervals are necessitated by the unusual harmonic progressions employed by the devoted Barbershopper arranger.

Barbershop harmony is the same as that employed in standard music — except in emphasis. "Barbershop" relies heavily on what might be called the mild discords; chords of the seventh being the Barbershoppers stock in trade. Chords with the sixth are not favored and chords of the major seventh or ninth are frowned upon except as most incidental passing tones. But dearest to the harmonic heart of the true barbershopper is the "swipe", a series of chords, as many as feasible, upon the same syllable . . . probably the harmonic counterpart of the coloratura so typical to the opera.

While classical and standard composers stick to chord progressions long recognized by the scholars as orderly and logical, Barbershop musicologists recognize no such limitations. Altered chords, sudden and unprepared key changes and foreign chords are typical of barbershop harmony. A good quartet or chorus arranger is constantly striving for more and more unusual chord progressions. When the "impossible" chord progression has been written and sung, barbershop heaven will have been attained.

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Continued on Page 42

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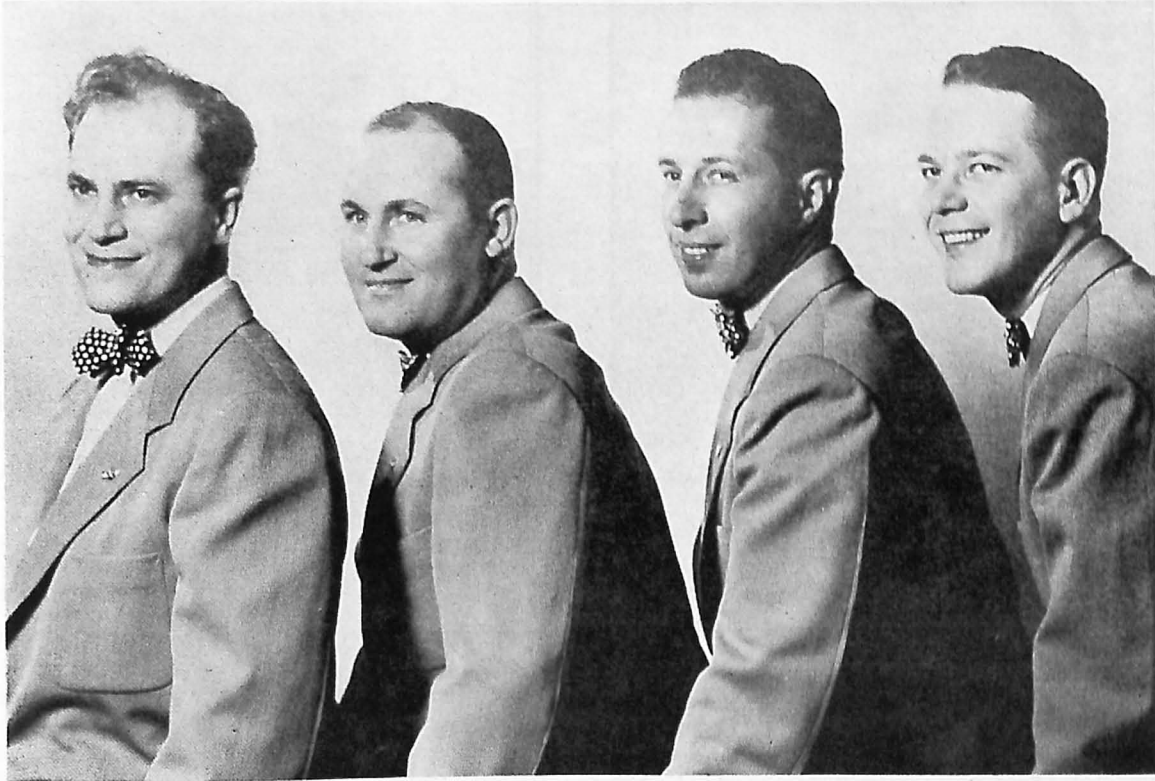
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If anyone ever told the late O. C. Cash, Rupe Hall, or Carroll Adams, or any of the pioneer revivors, or shall we say, rejuvenators of Barber Shop Harmony, that women and children would become interested in barber shop singing in any capacity other than obliging listeners, more likely than not the afore-mentioned would have agreeably disagreed. And little wonder—barber shop harmony, especially Barber Shop Quartet harmony, had been practically dormant for even the men for a quarter century, or thereabouts.

When our founders felt the urge to restore this type of harmony to its rightful place in American Music, a spark in the form of enthusiasm ignited the fuel in the guise of zeal back in 1938. Widespread acclamation and welcome acceptance greeted those hearty promoters of what is now universally recognized as the SPEBSQSA. The clarion call had been directed toward men—and they responded. Nothing was expected of the wives except allowing the husbands freedom on the nights barber-shopping was in order.

Then women became to succumb to close harmony addiction. No one appeared to be completely surprised when eventually the "sweet Adelines" were organized—then came an awakening!

Pictures and editorials began making quite periodic appearances in the "Harmonizer", extolling the cleverness and excellence of youngsters who were stealing into the spotlight and into the hearts of audiences attending shows and parades in nearly every district from coast to coast. Kiddies were actually singing barber shop arrangements.

Here in our own Indiana-Kentucky district, "The Four Chips" from Evansville, Indiana were the first to sweep us off our feet. Most of us recognized Jerry McPhee. He had appeared on many shows with his famous mama and daddy, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold McPhee. When little Davy got the bug, he and Jerry teamed up with two sons of George Viehe, lead for "The Dixie Liners", the quartet in which Arnold McPhee sings tenor.

"The Singing Brocks" from Connorsville, Indiana were the next juvenile foursome to amaze seasoned adult barber-shoppers. Most of us from the Kentucky half of the Indiana-Kentucky district heard of this three-sister-one-brother team at the Brown County picnic. From that day to this, only Daddy (Carl) Brock, bass for "The Connorsville Balladares", could enumerate how many audiences these kids have enthralled.

To look at "The Decker Sisters", one finds it difficult to realize that when these girls started nearly four years ago, they ranged in ages from ten to sixteen—and that, in anyone's book, is indeed a tender age to attempt singing the complicated and tricky arrangements that they mastered.

We of the Louisville Chapter have proudly featured

all of these juvenile foursomes in past shows—some more than once.

This year, we present to you three-fourths of a quartet who bear the extreme distinction of being the only all male "small fry" barber shop triplets. They are from Muncie, Indiana.

These Harris Triplets are yet to become a quartet. Daddy (Mighty Midget) Harris, past president of the Muncie Chapter, is patiently waiting for his triplet trio to grow up to his size. In the meantime, the three boys are kept busy as all get-out. In the absence of the fourth voice, they at least get a chance to select and capitalize on the three sweetest notes of a genuine barber shop chord.

We of the adult group need not worry that barber-shopping will ever again become decadent. The fervor and interest exhibited by the "Small Fry" guarantees everlasting continuation.

"Hats Off" to the parents of youths who so unselfishly and patiently devote the time it requires so that their offspring can contribute to the concept. "Keep America Singing".

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Close harmony chords, "minor slides and changes" can, of course, be written down or indicated on the music staff, but heaven help the singer (to say nothing of the listener) if he attempts to convert them into harmonious musical effects except as guided by a "good-ear"—in fact by a very acute and exceptionally tone sensitive ear.

Some years back, when the old Lyceum or Lecture Course was enjoying its cultural heyday, a popular demonstration was held in one of the large Chicago studios to test the blending qualities of a considerable number of choral singers and professional musicians. A by-product of the test revealed that just as some people cannot "carry a tune" some can not follow rapid chord changes or distinguish their tone elements. It was also observed that some of the out-and-out professionals, while proficient in musical techniques of one kind or another, were not necessarily adept at blending "close harmony" chords as "Barbershoppers" distinguish them from the conventional arrangements. So if one asks why standard arrangements are so humdrum as compared with those of the current male quartet phobia bear in mind, that commercial sheet-music arrangements must fill the staple commercial needs where musical ambition or mechanical skill may be called upon to toot the tooter, warble the cadenza or waft the baton as often, perhaps, as exceptional talent and aptitude.

Another question often presented to the Barbershoppers is "What makes a good close harmony song?" Well! in the first place those who enjoy singing in quartets, as well as those who like to listen, find more enjoyment in harmonious chords than they do in the words, melodies or rhythms of songs and, therefore, they emphasize the harmony elements—perhaps at the expense of words, melody and rhythm. Then another controlling factor has to do with the formation of vocal sounds. You can't play S's and R's on your vocal chords any better than you can on a violin or piano. So generally speaking a good harmony song is one where, by accident or design, good solid vowel sounds or other musical tones fall on the accented or prolonged notes of the melody.

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J. Bertram Harmon, E.

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Third Row — left to right: George B. Merrifield, Irvin J. Filmer, Ira Decker, Clyde C. Hodges, W. J. "Dusty" Rhodes, W. C. Caldwell, K. L. Schneider, George E. Glaser, Wm. J. Borgerding, Don Snyder, W. Ken Atkins, F. V. Witherspoon, Lee F. Hukill.

Fourth Row — left to right: R. B. Grant, Sr., Pat Dunlevy, Ray Graft, Stan Hughes, Tom Potter, Dave Lowell, Louis F. Schanz, Frank M. Shephard, Jr., Robert F. Kerr, Joseph D. Cutsinger, Henry C. Weber, Harold R. Fow, R. A. Hagan, K. Dennison.

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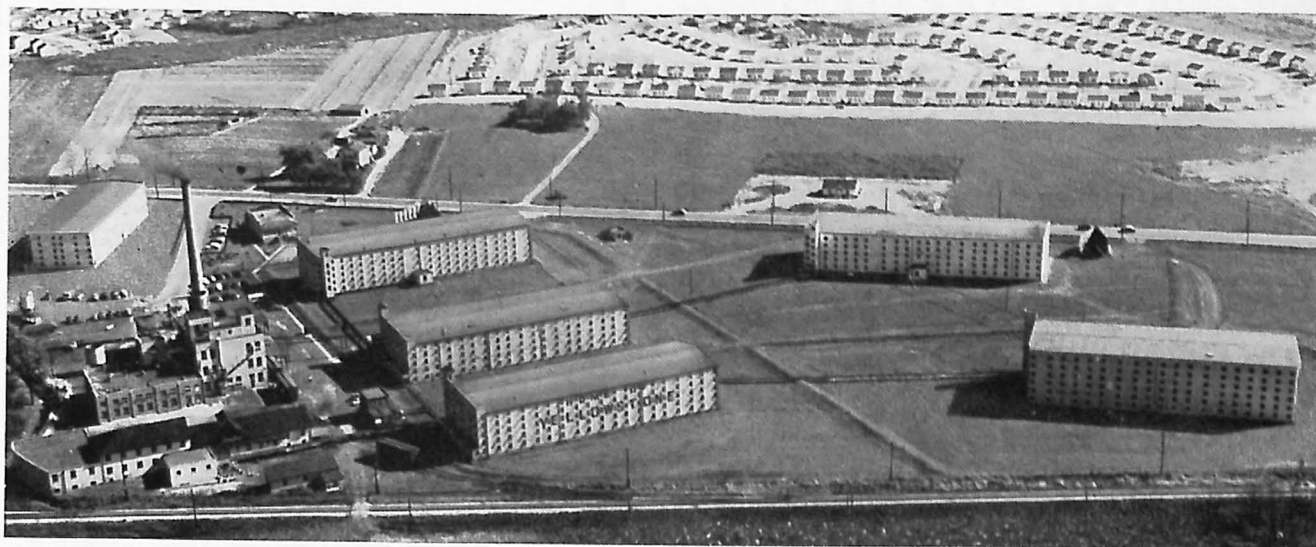
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ACT V

The Louisville Chorus in its second appearance shows off just a bit with some very difficult arrangements. Three songs are as follows:

ROBERT E. LEE Directed by Mr. Harmon
MOOD INDIGO Directed by Mr. Harmon
JINGLE BELLS Directed by Mr. Harmon

ACT VI

The quartet appearing in this spot is one of the most loved to have ever emerged from our district. Very few, indeed are the weekends they spend at home with their charming wives. Past District Champs and National Finalists, the TEMPLEAIRES sing for your pleasure:

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WHOO DE DO The Templeaires
DAISIES The Templeaires

Continued on Page 53

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CODE OF ETHICS

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND
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INCORPORATED

LOUISVILLE CHAPTER, KENTUCKY No. 1

*We, as members of the Society, do hereby
subscribe to the principles of our organi-
zation as embodied in its illustrious name
and title, and do solemnly pledge ourselves
to abide by Code of Ethics in all of its
precepts.*

1. We recognize the inalienable right of men to seek a haven from burdensome daily stresses and care through the medium of old-fashioned vocal quartet harmony.
2. We shall always venerate and honor barber-shop harmony as an American institution worthy of perpetuation.
3. We shall deport ourselves and conduct our functions in a manner which will at all times reflect credit upon the Society.
4. Our activities in all respects shall conform to the Constitution of the Society and to the rules established by the National Board of Directors.
5. We shall strive to attend all Chapter meetings and these shall be held at least once each month.
6. We shall resist the application of any constraining methods of procedure in the conduct of business affairs of the Society, and shall prohibit the introduction of all matters pertaining to politics or to any other extraneous controversial issues.
7. We shall not permit or tolerate the commercialization of the Society in any manner whatsoever.
8. We shall solicit for membership in the Society only congenial men of good character who possess an inherent love of harmony and/or do desire to harmonize.
9. We shall refrain from foisting our songs upon unsympathetic ears and shall always be guided by a rational spirit of good fellowship.
10. We shall do everything in our power to "Harmonize America" by stimulating, through the medium of good singing, a proper spirit and morale among the men in the armed forces and the people of our great Nation.
11. We shall use our gift of barber-shop harmony as a means of rendering altruistic service in and to our communities.
12. We shall help the Society to be worthy of praise and praise it for all it is worth.

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Jack Dufford, Baritone

Wells Holben, Bass

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Seldom does one find as large a group of people who are as happy in their work as Barbershoppers, for their work is helping others, and there is nothing that gives more pleasure or satisfaction than knowing that your efforts benefit others.

This singing assembly of good fellows devotes its time in learning songs which are used when the group is called upon to donate its services for charitable endeavors.

The Louisville Chapter not only gives service to local organizations, but is called upon to arrange shows in other cities in the State for the benefit of those less fortunate than themselves.

This past year some of the local activities included working booths at the Kosair Crippled Children's Picnic, The Protestant Orphans' Home, the St. Matthews Charity Bazaar, all of which were very successful. The Chorus also sang on several occasions at the Veteran's Hospital and were invited as the one non-professional group to sing on the Cerebral Palsy Telethon at the Auditorium which was m.c.'d by Warren Hull. A group of some 50 Barbershoppers sang at 3:30 in the morning as though it was mid-day.

Each year the Chapter arranges at Christmas time to have a party to which each member brings a toy or toys for distribution among children in orphanages in the city. This past Christmas party included the wives and/or sweethearts, who also contributed toys.

There is always a beneficiary of the Fall show which is given each year. Last year it was the Heart Fund and this year the proceeds of the show will be donated to the Kiwanis Underprivileged Children's Fund.



The Chorus at Kosair Cripple Children's Carnival

In addition to work, there are many social activities for which every Barbershopper anxiously waits.

This year, all chapters of the Indiana-Kentucky area had a meeting at Mammoth Cave, where the joint choruses sang in the cave under the direction of Bill Henn, of Evansville. A recording was made and broadcast over the radio a week or so later.

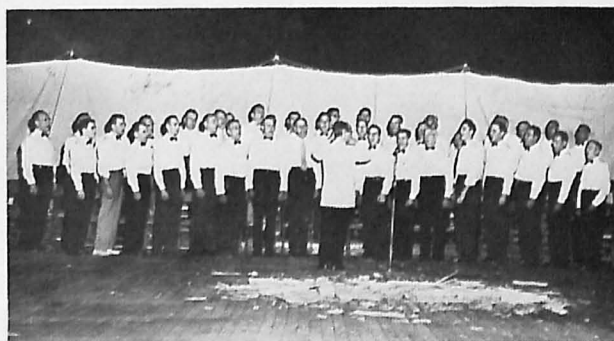
During the year Ladies' Nights are enjoyed by the members and their partners, at which time there are door prizes, dancing, singing and more singing.



The SPEBSQSA Sponsored Booth at Protestant Orphans Picnic.

There are also stag affairs during the year and a picnic is enjoyed by those who participate. Baseball, golf, horseshoe pitching and other outdoor sports continue throughout the day until a delicious country fried chicken dinner is served, which is the beginning of the "woodshedding". That is the term used to describe that brand of barbershop singing in which groups get together and pull old songs out of memory and harmonize to their hearts content. And in our membership the ages range from teen age to the middle eighties.

After the Fall Show, the visiting quartets and their wives are entertained together with the members of the chapter and their wives at an "After Glow", which is one continuous round of songs which lasts until the wee sma' hours in the morning.



The Chorus at The State Fair

We thank you for having participated in helping us to help others by your patronage and feel confident that you will thoroughly enjoy our show. We look forward to the pleasure of seeing you next year.

Officers and Directors Louisville Chapter
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.



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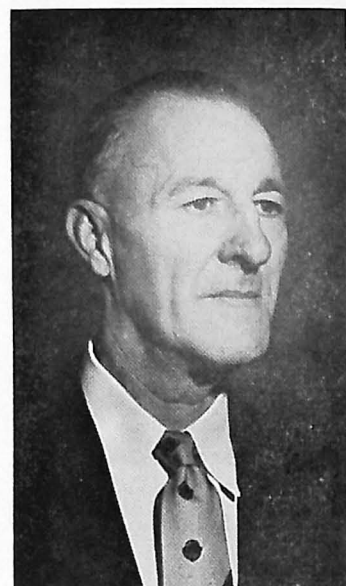
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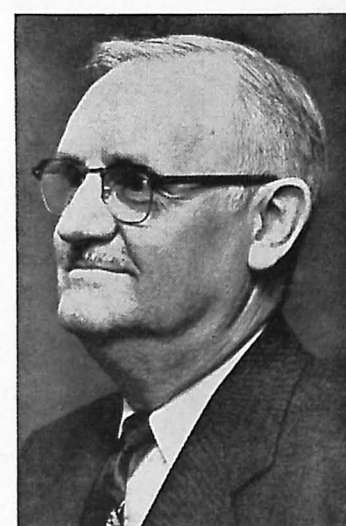
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ACT VII

Each year, the Sweet Adelines, Inc. conduct a national convention much in the same manner as do the Barber Shoppers. Among other purposes, an objective is to select and crown a new champion Girl's Barber Shop Quartet. This year, the newly organized Louisville Blue Grass Chapter was represented by the Decker Sisters. In spite of never having previously competed in a contest, these four sisters walked away with 3rd place honors. They hurdled the obstacle of competition that was seasoned and contest-wise. Listen to the 1953 SWEET ADELINER MEDALISTS.

BALLIN' THE JACK The Decker Sisters
 ALICE BLUE GOWN The Decker Sisters
 JUST A SONG AT TWILIGHT The Decker Sisters

Continued on Page 56

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KENTUCKY TROUBADOURS

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Qualified for International Quartet Contest 1951 — Kansas City

Kenny Paslick, Lead

Jack Byrne, Baritone

Ray Graft, Bass

Sam Gerhardt, Tenor

Kenny Paslick, Lead atop of the totem pole has resigned from the quartet for business reasons and the lead spot has been taken over by Gene Heichelbeck.

SELECTIONS

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Row - Row - Row

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ACT VIII

LADIES — HOLD ONTO YOUR PURSES! MEN — HOLD ONTO YOUR HATS! Don't get us wrong — there are no burglars in the house. It's just that the OMAHA KERNELS are COMIN'. That's all brother. If you fall out of your seats or roll in the aisles, just stay there. It will save repeatedly picking yourself up. They are strictly on their own but here listed are a few of the selections they have made famous.

BARBERSHOP BOOGIE WOOGIE	The Kernels
KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE GIRL YOU LOVE	The Kernels
BARBER SHOPPING THE ARGENTINE	The Kernels

FINALE

Anything to follow that last act would be anti-climaxal but in keeping with the concept of all barber shoppers, the entire cast sings the song that — if its words are heeded and lived up to — could bring everlasting peace to this wonderful country of ours.

All the Quartets and both choruses sing..... KEEP AMERICA SINGING

GOOD NIGHT, ALL. COME BACK NEXT YEAR

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BARBERSHOP TECHNIQUE

The quizzical interest of the general public in the surprising revival of male quartet singing has been nation-wide. The institution responsible for "preserving" and "encouraging" this male weakness is trademarked by a barber pole and the abridged alphabet: S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

Perhaps it was the best release the older generation could devise in its emergency and unnatural return to leadership in social spheres vacated by the marching armies of youth. And perhaps the middle-aged welcomed the reminiscent association of their own youth with the "Gay Nineties" setting which has been caricatured by drooping mustaches and bicycle handle-bars to match, and with sentimental ballads and hour-glass chorus girls.

But despite the apparent apologetic humor of the vehicle there is nothing inferior about the so-called "Barber Shop Chord" as a kind of musical harmony. The truth is that when some smooth-blending, chord-bending quartet rigs up a few fast "changes" and minor "slides" the harmony gets as complex and difficult and probably more exacting than any other kind of four-part vocal music.

The harmony arrangements of much of our sheet music follow more or less conventional patterns. Such arrangements more nearly express a sort of musical science than a fine art and as a consequence they tend to become monotonous and thus rob many melodies of their accompaniment possibilities. These commonplace arrangements however meet the necessary general demand because when set down on the printed page they can be read easily by any ordinary musician and can be sung with some musical accuracy even if the singer's musical "ear" is none too sensitive. On the other hand good "close harmony" quartets rebel against the straight jacket of any conventional school. They ignore and scorn anything stereotyped or formal and toss chords around with all the insolent abandon of clown jugglers in a circus. There isn't any musical science about "Barber Shop." It is just pure tone adjustment by acute ear-sense the physics of which is lost in vibration harmonics, overtones and timbres that defy ordinary analysis. Undoubtedly it is this departure from the commonplace which has accounted for the surprised attention and enthusiastic reception of such large patronage.



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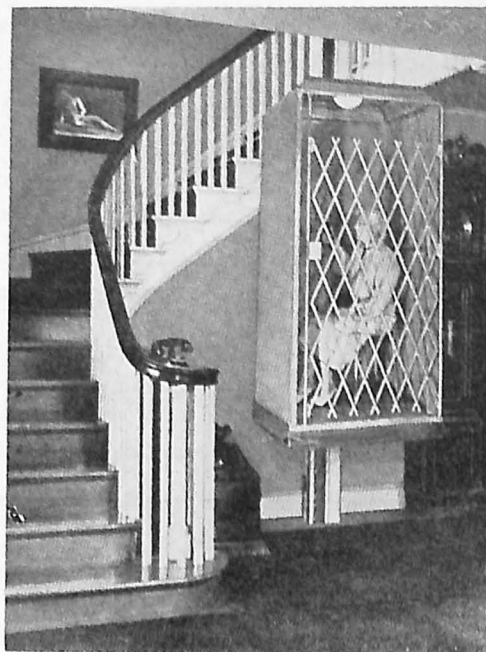
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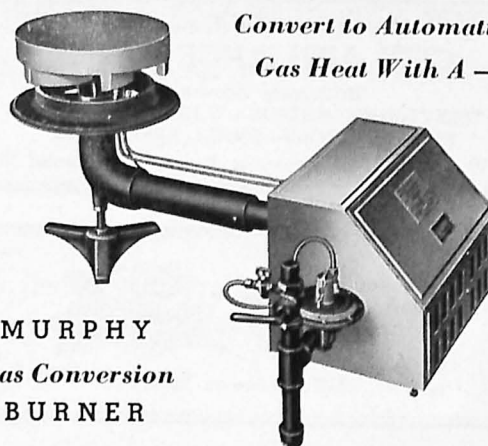


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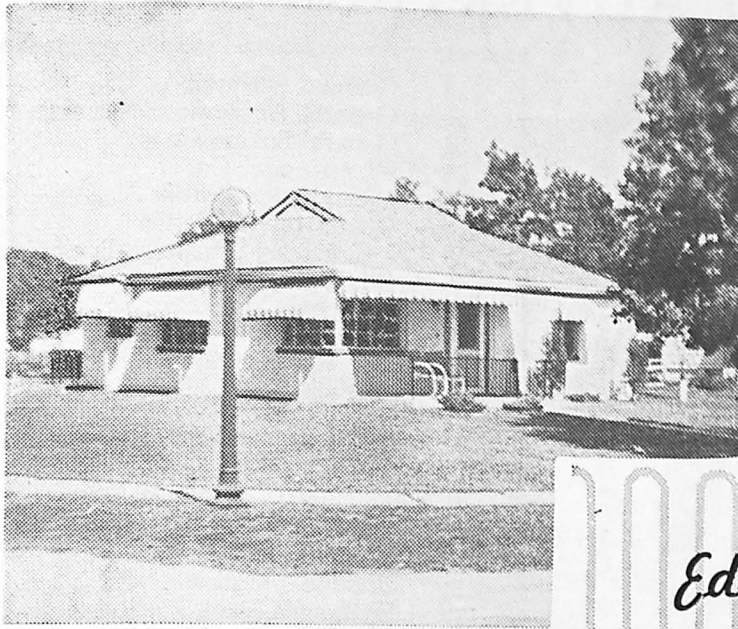
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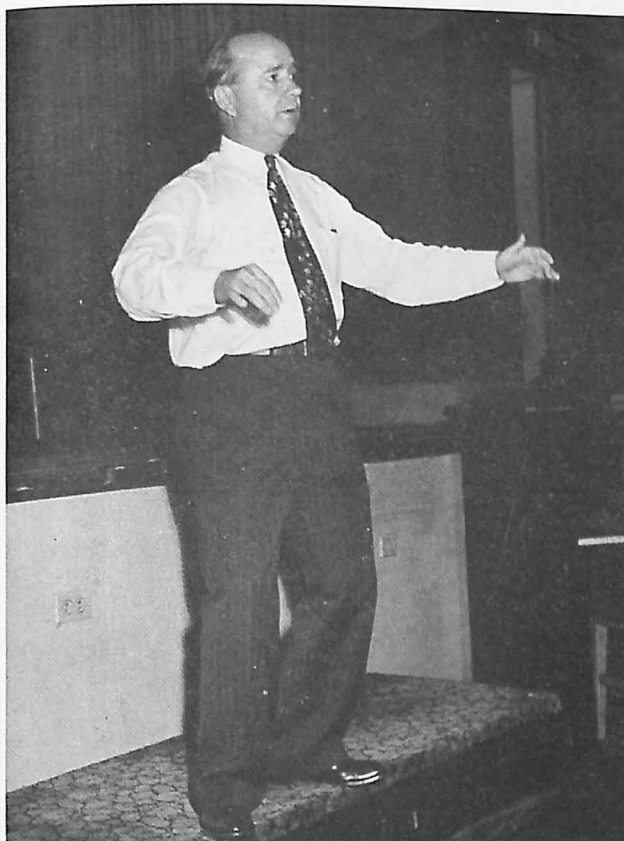


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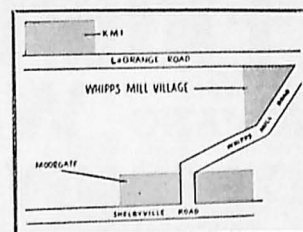


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